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DEKALB NURSERY BULLETIN

De Kalb Street, Norristown, Pa.

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U. S. Department of Agriculture



Office of De Kalb Nurseries

Practical suggestions—what and when to plant, prune and spray—and seasonable offerings of the many varieties of Trees, Hardy Flowers, Hardy Shrubs, grown and distributed by the DeKalb Nurseries.

CLOSED ON SUNDAY



Adolf Müller
De Kalb Nurseries
Norristown, Pa.



APRIL, 1925

The Flower Show held in March was a wonderful success. Flowers and Floral Arts never were presented to the public in a more distinguished fashion; and all this was done for education, so any one may learn how to use flowers and to assemble them, in order to produce the most pleasing effects.

There is no patent on the art of arranging flowers, the more one sees, the more one can learn how better to put together a bouquet of flowers or a basket of them, or how to arrange them in a thousand other original ways.

I want to acknowledge here the many pleasant greetings I received from the many friends and readers of this Bulletin while I was at the Flower Show attending to our own exhibit of trees. I appreciate this interest very much indeed, and to the best of my ability and with new courage I will endeavor to keep this Bulletin going the rounds, peddling my humble message from month to month, and I hope that it will become better with age, and therefore always acceptable in every home.

Now is the season when every shovel and spade, rake and trowel must shine because of usage, the grass should be carefully raked clean, the weeds, such as dandelion, plantains and the like should be dug out of the sod, some grass and clover seed sown and rolled in. These are commonplace things to be sure, but have you done them?

The covering of any plants should now be taken off, but not all at once, many fine evergreens that were protected against the cold and winds of winter die, if suddenly uncovered. Usually on a bright warm day these plants are uncovered and not having been exposed they start to bud and grow and the first cold freezing night kills them.

These coverings should be removed gradually so the plants, whether evergreens, roses or tender Hydrangeas, get used to the weather and the exposure and then there will be no loss.

If the flower beds are covered with leaves or manure, be sure that these leaves or manure be dug into the ground. Only yesterday I came through Germantown and I saw where in several places wagon loads of leaves were raked and scraped off the ground underneath some fine flowering shrubs, ready to be hauled to the nearest dump to be burned.

This is a crime, to say the least, possibly inexcusable ignorance is a good term to use, too.

These shrubs need this vegetable humus to live and thrive. If a shrub is to bloom and do well it must have food, dead leaves and manure dug into the ground is the best plant food. What do you do, pay some one to burn it, or do you pay some one to dig it in the ground and thereby feed the plants and pay them for their flowers and blooms?

Cut back all Roses, now is the best time to do it, by May they will start to grow and it is most too late then. Roses should be cut back severely in order to produce plenty of strong young shoots that will produce the flowers.

Climbing Roses should not be cut back at this time, they should be cut back when they are done flowering, but at this time the Climbing Roses should be tied up in some orderly fashion so that if one is trying to produce an archway of Roses, it should be an arch, and not a jumbled up mass where the intent is lost and indistinct.

I am very fond of seeing a mound of Roses such as can be produced with a Climbing Rose, but I hope I shall always have the courage when growing an arch of Roses to tie them up to where they belong and thus be able to enjoy a first class piece of work.

Spray the Box Bushes and spray them thoroughly, the leaf minor has spread considerably, and by spraying this little pest can be checked. Spray all fruit trees before and after blooming, it will pay to do it. Now is the time.

Now just a few words about the DeKalb Nurseries; we are growing many acres of Trees, Evergreens and Flowering Shrubs, and we try to produce good plants and Trees, and we need your patronage, and because we need it we want it, and therefore ask you to place at least part of your orders with us.

We can fill big orders as well as small ones, and we are equipped to do it on short notice. We have a big staff of men experienced in this work and there is a distinct satisfaction and advantage to be able to secure your Trees dug fresh out of the ground and delivered to your place within a short space of time.

Packing and shipping with its attending delays are all eliminated. We seek to serve only local clients within fifty miles around Philadelphia.

Herbaceous plants, Paeonies, Iris and most of other well known species we have a plenty in stock, and I trust we may be permitted to fill some of your orders for them.

We have a good supply of Pachysandra and Periwinkle to cover shady places under trees and bushes and on terraces. If you need them we have several thousand nice young plants that have been grown in Nursery rows for one year; they will be effective the first season.

If you have a big tree on the lawn that has killed the grass underneath plant some Pachysandra and they will cover the ground with foliage that is green in summer as well as in winter and thus be a source of pleasure instead of a source of annoyance.

We are offering as a special bargain to all readers of this Bulletin the privilege of buying BLACK HILL SPRUCE for \$1.00 each, they are just the prettiest little Trees that ever came out of the Forests of the Rocky Mountains.

They can stand our climate, and are as hardy as granite, and every feature of them expresses sturdiness. The price is \$1.00 for one; \$100.00 per 100.

We have enough for all and I trust many will take advantage of this offer, as it will not again be made because I do not expect again to find it possible to offer these Trees at so low a price.

Chinese Umbrella Trees, i.e., Catalpa Bungeii, are great favorites, they should be planted now. We have fine specimen trees, straight as a die at \$3.50 each, \$7.00 for a pair.

We have many fine Japanese Maples, big bushy trees that are red part of the time but not all summer, at \$10.00 each. They are worth \$15.00 to \$20.00. They should be planted early.

To enumerate all the trees we have it would require many pages. We would rather the buyer would come and see them and know what he is to get. So we ask you to visit our Nursery and have the pleasure of selecting your own choice.

Awaiting your early visit.

I am

Sincerely

ADOLF MÜLLER.